**FLESFEST 2016-Alverno College Credit Option**

**Course Name:** 90%+: Engaging Students in Language Use in the Elementary World Language Classroom

**Dates:** February 27-April 27, 2016

**Credit: 1**

**Course Description:** Participants in this course will have the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills using best practices to build thematic units and facilitate language proficiency in world language classes for younger/beginning learners. Participants will attend a one-day conference (FLESFEST) where they will gain knowledge of standards-based strategies for building thematic units, increasing target language use in the classroom, using visual literacy to explore culture, presenting stories through Readers Theater and exploring technology tools to document and reflect on achievement over time (i.e., digital portfolios). At the end of this course, participants will be able to synthesize what they have learned through self-reflection and plan accordingly for integration and implementation of these strategies into their own unit plan as well as daily lesson plans.

**Course Outcomes**

Participants will:

1. Expand their current teaching strategies to include building thematic units that foster meaningful, standards-based communication and student language proficiency in early/beginning language learning classes.
2. Incorporate meaningful connections into their existing practice through topics explored on the subject of thematic units and FLESFEST conference sessions attended.
3. Self-assess through professional reflections on how to build thematic units, increase the use of the target language and document language proficiency in the classroom through a variety of engaging activities including the use of Readers Theater, visual literacy and digital portfolios.
4. Develop strategies to incorporate thematic units into their own personal unit templates and integrate standards-based daily lesson activities as well as performance assessments tasks.

**Credit Option Requirements:**

* Attend FLESFEST 2016 1 day workshop at Alverno College (February 27, 2016): 8:00AM-3:30PM
* Read 3 Articles (minimum) provided that relate to the topics presented during FLESFEST 2016
* Write a Reflection Paper (4-5 pages maximum), synthesizing articles as well as sessions attended at FLESFEST 2016, including ideas for future implementation into class units and/or lesson plans
* Complete Template of Integrated and Standards-Based lesson as part of a unit, which is developed as a new unit or an enhanced unit incorporating items learned at FLESFEST 2016.

All course materials can be found at: [www.flesfestcredit.wikispaces.com](http://www.flesfestcredit.wikispaces.com)

**Deadline for Submission of Materials: April 27, 2016 (11:59PM)**

Please submit all materials in one folder electronically (Google Docs is acceptable) to Lynn Sessler Neitzel @[lmneitzel@gmail.com](mailto:lmneitzel@gmail.com)